



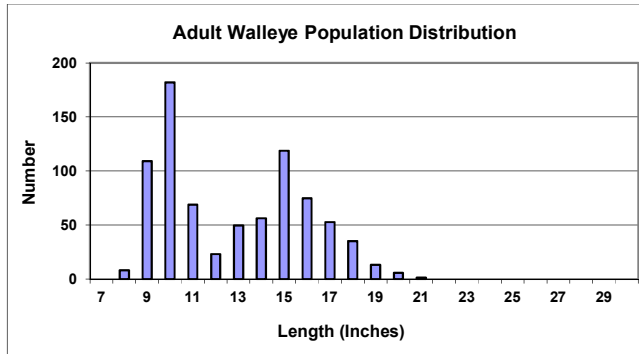
WISCONSIN DNR FISHERIES INFORMATION SHEET

LAKE: SNIPE

COUNTY: VILAS

YEAR: 2018

The Department of Natural Resources surveyed Snipe Lake, Vilas County, from May 5th through May 10th, to assess the status of the adult Walleye and Muskellunge populations. The lake was also surveyed on June 5th to assess the bass populations. Snipe Lake is a seepage lake with sand, rock, and muck substrates. It has a surface area of 239 acres, 4.0 miles of shoreline, and a maximum depth of 15 feet. Snipe Lake's Walleye, Muskellunge, and bass populations are sustained through natural reproduction.



* Note: Adult Walleye are defined as all sexable Walleye (regardless of length) and those of unknown sex ≥ 15 inches in length.

Walleye



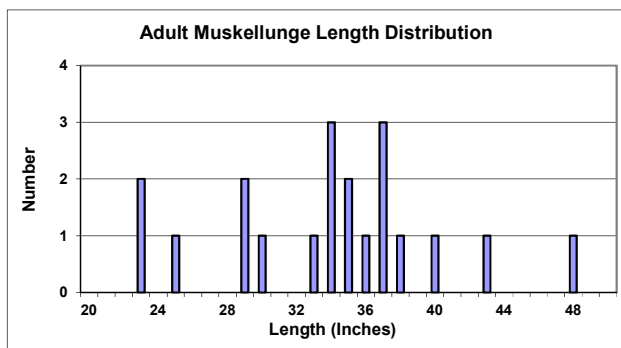
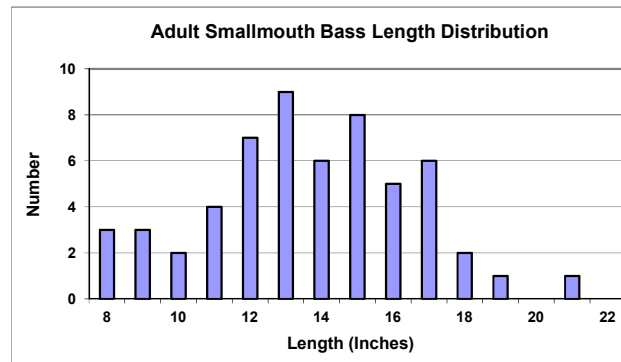
During three days of targeted Walleye fyke netting, 203 adult Walleye were captured and marked with a fin clip. A crew then sampled with an electrofishing boat and captured 68 adult Walleye. During electrofishing 24% (16 of 68) of captured Walleye bore the fin clip given during fyke netting. The largest Walleye we captured was a 21.7-inch female.

Based on those results, Snipe Lake was estimated to contain 799 adult Walleye (3.3/acre). An estimated 38% of adult Walleye were 15 inches or longer.

Smallmouth Bass



During sampling conducted through June 5th, we captured 57 Smallmouth Bass eight inches or larger; 51% were 14 inches or longer, and the largest was 21.8 inches. Due to the low number of Smallmouth Bass captured during the survey, we were unable to reliably estimate their population size in Snipe Lake. There were no Largemouth Bass captured during our surveys.



Muskellunge



During our fyke netting and electrofishing sampling of Snipe Lake, 21 adult Muskellunge were captured. Of the adult Muskellunge, 14% (3 of 21) were 40 inches or longer, and the largest was a 48.2-inch female. Additionally, 55 juvenile Muskellunge (12.2" - 28.6") were also captured.

* Note: Adult Muskellunge are defined as all sexable Muskellunge and those of unknown sex ≥ 30 inches in length.

Other Species

In addition to the gamefish mentioned above, nine species of fish were captured during our fyke netting and electrofishing sampling of Snipe Lake. Yellow Perch (4.3" - 9.2") and Bluegill (3.9" - 6.9") were common in our catches. We also caught moderate numbers of Rock Bass (5.6" - 6.5") and Pumpkinseed (5.0" - 6.4"). Other species captured at lower numbers included Black Crappie, White Sucker, Bluntnose Minnow, Mimic Shiner, and Johnny Darter.

A creel survey will be conducted on Snipe Lake throughout the 2018-19 fishing season. A creel clerk will count and interview anglers and examine their catch. The information gathered will be used to estimate angler fishing effort, catch and harvest.

Table 1. General Fishing Regulations for Snipe Lake, Vilas County, 2018-19.

FISH SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	DAILY LIMIT	MINIMUM LENGTH
Walleye	May 5 - March 3	3	15" min. length, 20-24" no harvest slot, 1 fish over 24" allowed
Largemouth Bass	May 5 - March 3	5 in total with SMB	14 inches
Smallmouth Bass	May 5 - June 15 (C&R) June 16 - March 3 (Harvest)	5 in total with LMB; harvest season only	14 inches
Muskellunge	May 26 - Nov. 30	1	40 inches
Northern Pike	May 5 - March 3	5	None

A brief summary of selected fishing regulations for Snipe Lake is included above (Table 1). While the regulatory information provided was current at the time the surveys were conducted, it is not comprehensive and should not be used as a substitute for the current fishing regulation pamphlet. You may obtain a copy of current fishing regulations when you purchase your fishing license, or download a copy from our web site at:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/regulations/>

This report is interim only; Watch for finalized summaries at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/north/trtysprngsrvys.html>. Creel survey results should be available by June of 2019 at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/fishing/north/trtycrslsrvys.html>. For questions, contact:

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For answers to questions about fisheries management activities and plans for Snipe Lake, Vilas County, contact:

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